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PTO/SB/21 (03-03) Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE e Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number **Application Number** 10/717.543 **TRANSMITTAL** Filing Date November 21, 2003 **FORM** First Named Inventor THOMAS GERLACH et al **Art Unit** 3721 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Drawing(s) Fee Transmittal Form to a Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC Petition Amendment/Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer Extension of Time Request Identify below): **LETTER** Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm William D. Breneman, Esq. **BRENEMAN & GEORGES** Individual Signature نعلند Date October 8, 2004 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: Typed or printed Signature Date

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re Patent Application of:

THOMAS GERLACH and DIRK DRÖGE

Serial No.: 10/717,543 Group Art Unit: 3721

Filed: November 21, 2003 Examiner:

For: STAPLING DEVICE

October 8, 2004

LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed please find an original Power of Attorney for filing in the above-identified patent application.

We respectfully request the appended original Power of Attorney be included with the above-identified patent application.

Although no fee is believed required to file the aboveidentified Power of Attorney, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment which may be required by this LETTER to Deposit Account No. 3702. THOMAS GERLACH and DIRK DRÖGE U.S. Patent Application S.N. 10/717,543

A <u>duplicate</u> copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

BRENEMAN & GEORGES

By:

William D. Breneman

Reg. No. 26,714

3150 Commonwealth Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22305 Tel.: (703) 683-8006 Fax: (703) 683-8009



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

THOMAS GERLACH and DIRK DRÖGE

Serial No.: 10/717,543 Group Art Unit: 3721

Filed: November 21, 2003 Examiner:

For: STAPLING DEVICE

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Assignee, HOHNER MASCHINENBAU GMBH of Gänsäcker 19, D-78532 Tuttlingen, Germany, the owner of full and complete rights to the above-identified patent application by virtue of an Assignment recorded on Reel 015070 and Frame(s) 0236-0239 (power hereby given to supply this data after the U.S. Patent Office records the Assignment) hereby appoints the following Registered Patent Attorney:

William D. Breneman, Esq., Reg. No. 26,714

BRENEMAN & GEORGES

3150 Commonwealth Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22305 Telephone: (703) 683-8006

Facsimile: (703) 683-8009

to prosecute the above-identified patent application, to make amendments, to file all necessary types of continuation, divisional, reexamination and reissue applications based thereon and to transact all business with the United States Patent and Trademark Office and represent the Assignee in connection therewith.

WILLIAM D. BRENEMAN, Reg. No. 26,714 of BRENEMAN & GEORGES and every Attorney at Law associated with that law firm having been admitted to the District of Columbia Bar and the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to sign any paper, and conduct any business on behalf of the Assignee in this case.

Please also address all future correspondence relative to the above-identified application to:

William D. Breneman, Esq.

BRENEMAN & GEORGES

3150 Commonwealth Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22305

Telephone: (703) 683-8006 Facsimile: (703) 683-8009

Prompt handling of this request is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

HOHNER MASCHANENBAU GMBH

Dated: 17. 10.04

By